



**John Elias Baldacci**  
*Governor, State of Maine*

Paul K. Vestal, Chair  
Edwin P. Chester, Esq. Vice Chair

## **Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group**

MINUTES  
January 28, 2009

The JJAG held the January meeting on January 28, 2009 at the Central Maine Power Offices in Augusta, Ned Chester, Vice-Chair, presiding.

### **I. Roll Call:**

Present: Mark Boger, Richard Brown, Ned Chester (by phone), Nickole Demeritt, Jim Foss, Kristen Jiorle, Hannah Kiernan, Charles LaVerdiere, Jim Morse, Dan Nichols, Barry Stoodley, Christine Thibeault (by phone), Patrick Walsh, Adam Royer, Margaret Longworth, Patrick Walsh

Absent: Barry Delong, Daniel Despard, Jamie Johnson, Phillipe McLoy, Breanne Petrini, Cathy Ashland, Abby McCourt, Dalene Dutton, Carla Fearon, Denise Giles, Joan McDonald, Shelley Reed

Staff: Damon Lefferts, Norma Loud, Kathryn McGloin

### **II. Minutes:**

The minutes for the November/December 2008 meeting were approved. A change was made to these minutes and then approved.

**Motion:** To approve the November/December 2008 Minutes

**Moved:** Jim Morse/Jim Foss 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Action:** Approved

### **III Chair Report:**

Paul Vestal, JJAG Chair, opened the meeting at 9:00. Paul gave a status report on where the JJAG was with the various positions in the JJAG that had been hit because of the State Budget crisis. Paul said that Commission Magnusson was committed to finding positions for those people in Corrections that been displaced because of the layoffs. Paul also talked a little about the collective bargaining process and bumping rights. Paul said things are working out, Norma is going to Labor and Damon is the newest Juvenile Community Corrections Officer (JCCO). Right now the JCCO position is an Acting position for a 3 to 6 month time period.

Paul then asked Barry to explain what is going on with Kathryn's position. Barry explained the bumping process. Barry also explained that the person who would be bumping Kathryn was interested in another position at the Department of Corrections and Kathryn would only be bumped if this person was unsuccessful in obtaining this other position.

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Questions were asked and answered regarding the collective bargaining process, bumping rights, losing the Federal money, issues of qualification versus seniority and whether the JJAG would be able to directly employ Kathryn without using state services and for that matter also Damon and Norma. Paul and Barry explained this was all done through Legislation. Paul also mentioned that the seniority would be covered by the Union contract so it is not issues of qualification. Barry also said he has spoke with this person about the qualifications of the job.

Ned asked if cuts in the biennium budget would have any effect on Kathryn and was told that Kathryn is not necessarily out of the woods.

Jim Morse commented that the JJAG should recognize the work that Damon and Norma have done since they have been employed by the JJAG. Richard Brown suggested that a letter of reference be place in Norma's and Damon's files reflecting the good work they have done.

Paul spoke about filling Norma's position half time. The Department is working to get the freeze taken off the position. Paul called for a motion to pay a half-time position to replace Norma.

**Motion:** To approve the payment of a half-time position to take Norma's place

**Moved:** Christine Thibeault/Jim Morse 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Action:** Approved

**Abstentions:** 2 Abstentions

Paul spoke about the JJAG's policy to fund projects after they have been approved by the Group. The JJAG previously voted to only accept requests in a certain form available from JJAG members. The December 10, 2008 vote to support the Regional Justice Forum was in violation of our own policy. The Regional Justice Forum will be supported to the extent we have receipts and a list of attendees as required by State policy.

Paul also talked about the laptops and printers the JJAG purchased for use in the MAYSI Project. Now that the MAYSI Project is finished the laptops and the printers have been returned to Kathryn's office and are growing moss there. We have had requests for redistribution of the laptops and printers. DOC still has a couple of the computers and 1 printer. Mark Boger has made a request to keep one of the computers in Juvenile Region 3 for implementing the MAYSI. Mountain View and Long Creek would like one computer each for the Sexual Behavior Treatment Program. Kathryn said that two of our recently funded subgrantees, Bucksport Parks & Recreation and Lisbon Police Department would like one each also. There are seven laptops total. With the requests listed above we have will have two laptops left over. A motion was called for to award the laptops in the requests above.

**Motion:** To approve the awarding of the laptops

**Moved:** Jim Morse/Jim Foss 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Action:** Approved

**Abstentions:** 2 Abstentions

Paul next talked about funding our current sub-grantees for a third year. Kathryn spoke about the opportunity to work with sub-grantees toward the ability to replicate their programs in other parts of the state. Paul called for a motion to approve.

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**Motion:** To approve funding the JJAG's current subgrantees for a 3<sup>rd</sup> year

**Moved:** Paul Vestal/Christine Thibeault 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Action:** Approved

Abstentions: 3 Abstentions

Kathryn said this would just be funding for a third year for the Formula subgrantees only. The Title V Sanford project is ready to be finished and she is working with Dr. Greene on new plans. Christine asked about JABG funding which goes to the Department of Corrections (DOC). JABG funding is awarded for DOC. Adam asked about finding other funding later in the year. Paul said we could not do that right now but we may get more money out of the new Administration in Washington, D.C. Richard Brown commented on the effects he has seen with CPS at Mountain View.

Paul talked about the Portland West appeal hearing which will take place this coming Friday from 9:00 to 4:00 at the Bureau of Purchases. Portland West submitted the same grant request for the last Request for Proposals. Kathryn said the JJAG will be represented by Assistant Attorney General Martha Hallisey-Swift and spoke about her meeting the Attorney Hallisey-Swift. Paul spoke briefly about other appeals the JJAG had gone through. Ned commended the reviewers of the Requests for Proposals saying they do really hard work on RFP's.

#### **IV. Juvenile Justice Specialist Report**

Kathryn reported site visits were going well. New sub-grantees are now reaching more children than they had intended to reach. The Community School and REAL School who will implement Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) will be inviting other schools to be trained by Dr. Greene.

#### **V. Compliance Monitor Report**

Damon made his year end report:

When arriving in 2008, there was a 1 year back-log of data from 2007. I calculated and organized all data in 4 months and completed the OJJDP Annual Compliance Monitoring reports for the year 2007. The same report for 2008 was done ahead of schedule.

OJJDP regulations state that 10% of secure holding facilities must be inspected each year. I inspected 100% of secure facilities, and 100% of the non-secure facilities in 2008 to ensure they had no secure status.

We now have 36 secure holding police departments and 12 county facilities that hold juveniles securely in Maine. In 2008 I discovered 9 new police departments that have a secure status and must report to me each month, further ensuring the youth are safe.

I have received 567 monthly reports where 1,116 juveniles were recorded in being in a secure status.

Out of 1,116 juveniles who were held securely, we had only had 4 violations. All were in Oxford County.

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I provided technical assistance, guides, and manuals to police departments and jails concerning the criteria's of a secure status and steps to take to ensure safety to the juvenile.

I have developed web pages for the state web site with information to educate police officers and the general public in what the options are available for juvenile offenders and how important the OJJDP Act is.

I have provided training in the are of Positive Interactions with Youth which trained over 100 police officers in Maine in the concept of approaching, and talking to juveniles, and how profiling plays a role in the mentality of both police officer and juvenile.

I am involved with the Diversion to Assets program in Maine. I provided as a liaison to area police agencies with the education of this program and how it can assist both community and police departments in keeping juveniles out of the criminal justice system.

I have made two DAs aware of the Positive Interactions with Youth training and they will attempt to create their own trainers in Maine to continue to train police officers.

## **VI. Committee Reports**

- 1. Communications** – Patrick Walsh, Chair – Patrick reported that there were news releases on his and Dalene's appointment to the JJAG. Work on the Three Year Plan begins today.
- 2. DMC** – Ned Chester, Chair – Ned talked about the DMC project moving forward. Ned said he, Muskie School, Christine Thibeault, and Chris Northrop had scheduled a training for the project with the law students and participants on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Ned said everyone showed up even though the training was scheduled during President-Elect Obama's Inauguration. Ned said the training went very well and the law students are anxious to get under way.

- 1. Legislative** – Christine Thibeault, Chair – Paul asked Christine what was happening with the Adam Walsh Act. Christine said she would have more information by mid February report at the next meeting.

Christine said she was expecting very few bills involving Juvenile Justice at the statehouse this year. The Department of Corrections has a bill regarding Interstate Compact and as soon as she sees the L.D. she will let everyone know about it. Barry commented on this saying there is a significant point of ambiguity.

## **VIII. Presentation:**

The Comprehensive Three -Year Plan was discussed

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M. Due to foul weather.

**The next meeting will be held at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy on February 25, 2009.**